

Appl. No. 09/715,870
Amdt. dated December 23, 2003
Reply to Office action of August 26, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) ~~The A film of claim 7, comprising:~~
a first layer, comprising a first polymer comprising a plurality of hydrogen bond donating moieties selected from the group consisting of O-H, N-H, P-H and S-H;
and
a second layer, comprising a second polymer comprising a plurality of hydrogen bond accepting moieties selected from the group consisting of C=O, O-H, N-H, C-F, P=O and C≡N;
wherein the first and second polymers are each soluble in water; the film does not contain a polymer layer comprising a plurality of permanently electrostatically charged groups when the film is stable; and said first polymer or said second polymer comprises carboxylic acid groups.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The film of claim 4 8, wherein said first polymer and said second polymer are bonded together through hydrogen bonds.

Claims 11-18 (Cancelled)

19. (Original) A surface, coated with the film of claim 8.

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Claims 20-25 (Cancell d)

26. (Original) The film of claim 8, further comprising an agent.
27. (Original) The film of claim 26, wherein said agent is a bioactive agent.

Claims 28-31 (Cancelled)

32. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a film, comprising:
contacting a surface with a first polymer, comprising a plurality of
hydrogen bond donating moieties, and
contacting said surface with a second polymer, comprising a plurality of
hydrogen bond accepting moieties.
33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 32, wherein each of said first polymer
and said second polymer are present as solutions.
34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 33, further comprising:
again contacting said surface with said first polymer, and
again contacting said surface with said second polymer.
35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 32, wherein said contacting said surface
with said second polymer is prior to said contacting said surface with said first polymer.
36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 33, wherein at least one of said first
polymer and said second polymer comprise a plurality of charge-forming groups.
37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein said hydrogen bond
donating moieties are selected from the group consisting of O-H, N-H, P-H and S-H.

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38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein said hydrogen bond accepting moieties are selected from the group consisting of C=O, O-H, N-H, C-F, P=O and C≡N.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein said charge-forming groups are selected from the group consisting of acids and bases.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, wherein said hydrogen bond accepting moieties are selected from the group consisting of C=O, O-H, N-H, C-F, P=O and C≡N.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 40, wherein said charge-forming groups are selected from the group consisting of acids and bases.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41, wherein said first polymer or said second polymer comprises carboxylic acid groups.

43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein said first polymer and said second polymer do not contain, first and second oppositely charged groups, respectively.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein said first polymer and said second polymer are bonded together through hydrogen bonds.

45. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein at least one of said solutions of said first polymer and said second polymer comprises an agent.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein said agent is a bioactive agent.

47. (Withdrawn) A method of removing the film of claim 1, comprising subjecting the film to an environmental change selected from a change in pH, a change in ionic strength, exposure to an electric field, or exposure to dissolved ions.

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48. (Withdrawn) A method of removing the film of claim 6, comprising subjecting the film to an environmental change selected from a change in pH, a change in ionic strength, exposure to an electric field, or exposure to dissolved ions.

49. (Withdrawn) A method of removing the film of claim 8, comprising subjecting the film to an environmental change selected from a change in pH, a change in ionic strength, exposure to an electric field, or exposure to dissolved ions.

50. (Withdrawn) A method of removing the film of claim 11, comprising subjecting the film to an environmental change selected from a change in pH, a change in ionic strength, exposure to an electric field, or exposure to dissolved ions.

51. (Withdrawn) A method of removing the film of claim 16, comprising subjecting the film to an environmental change selected from a change in pH, a change in ionic strength, exposure to an electric field, or exposure to dissolved ions.

52. (New) The film of claim 8, wherein the first polymer is selected from the group consisting of polycarboxylic acids, polynucleotides, polymers of vinylic nucleic acids, polyamino acids, polyalcohols, polyamines, and polysaccharides.

53. (New) The film of claim 8, wherein the second polymer is selected from the group consisting of polynucleotides, polyalcohols, polyethers, polyketones, polyaldehydes, polyacrylamides, polyamines, polyesters, and polysaccharides.

54. (New) The film of claim 52, wherein the second polymer is selected from the group consisting of polynucleotides, polyalcohols, polyethers, polyketones, polyaldehydes, polyacrylamides, polyamines, polyesters, and polysaccharides.

55. (New) The film of claim 8, wherein the first polymer comprises a polycarboxylic acid, and the second polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene oxide); poly(1,2-dimethoxyethylene); poly(vinylmethyl ether); poly(N-vinyl-

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2-pyrrolidone); poly(vinyl alcohol); polyacrylamide; poly(N-isopropylacrylamide); $(\text{CH}_2(\text{NCOCH}_3)\text{CH}_2)_x$; and a vinyl polymer comprising crown ether groups.

56. (New) The film of claim 8, wherein the first polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid and polyglutamic acid.

57. (New) The film of claim 56, wherein the second polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene oxide), poly(vinyl alcohol) and poly(vinylpyrrolidone).

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